

**WAYNE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, VETERANS AND
COMMUNITY WELLNESS
PROCEDURE**



Policy No: 60125.003
Procedure No: 60113.003.30
Effective Date: 7/25/11
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Communicable Disease
Title: Video Directly Observed Therapy

DOT for patients diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB) disease greatly reduces the likelihood of drug resistance, treatment failure, or relapse at the end of treatment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends DOT as the core management of TB treatment. DOT requires a nurse to directly observe a patient taking TB medications on a regular and reoccurring basis. As prescribed by a physician. At times, it is necessary for a patient to travel, which interrupts the DOT process, needing him/her to be given medication packets, and trusting the patient to take the TB medications as ordered. Patients with the proper technology can take the medications with them, and still be observed by a nurse or PHP when out of town, thereby continuing the recommended treatment management as described above. Video DOT provides an alternative to face to face Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) when a client is unavailable for a home visit and the technology is available.

Criteria for using DOT via video technology (i.e. Skype/Face Time)

1. The patient must complete a minimum of one (1) month of face to face DOT with a nurse before considering this type of DOT.
2. The patient is 18 years or older.
3. The patient is given no more than one (1) month of prepackaged medications at a time.
4. The patient continues to be available at the scheduled dates and time.

Exclusion criteria for use DOT via video technology (i.e. Skype/Face Time)

1. The patient experiences side effects, requiring dosage changes
2. The environment is not stable, affecting the ability of the patient to follow through with scheduled dates and times.
3. The patient is unable to maintain proper communication with the nurse.
4. The patient is unable to maintain the proper equipment for communication.
5. There are illegal activities in the patient's environment.
6. The patient has MDR TB or complicated TB case management.

Procedure

RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. The nurse will pre-arrange a date and time that the communication will begin. | DOT Nurse |
| 2. The nurse and client sign on to the video technology (i.e. Skype/Face Time) service. | DOT Nurse |
| 3. The client shows the pill packet to the nurse. | DOT Nurse |
| 4. The client places the pills on his/her tongue so that they are visible to the nurse. | DOT Nurse |
| 5. The patient swallows the pills during the observation, so that the nurse is assured that the pills have been taken properly. | DOT Nurse |

6. Once the pills have been taken, the nurse asks any pertinent questions for the visit. DOT Nurse
7. At the end of the visit, the next date and time are confirmed with the patient. DOT Nurse

APPROVAL

Ruta Sharangpani MD, MPH
Medical Director



Date

REVISION DATE

6/8/17